

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

Safe Schools Week

WHEREAS, schools make substantial contributions to the future of America and to the development of our nation's young people as knowledgeable, responsible and productive citizens; and

WHEREAS, excellence in education is dependent on safe, secure and peaceful school settings; and

WHEREAS, the safety and well-being of many students, teachers and school staff are unnecessarily jeopardized by crime and violence, such as substance abuse, gangs, bullying, poor discipline, vandalism and absenteeism, in our schools; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of all citizens to enhance the learning experiences of young people by helping to ensure fair and effective discipline, promote good citizenship and generally make school safe and secure; and

WHEREAS, all leaders, especially those in education, law enforcement, government and business, should eagerly collaborate with each other and the National School Safety Center, a partnership of Pepperdine University, the U.S. Department of Justice and U.S. Department of Education, to focus public attention on school safety and identify, develop and promote innovate answers to these critical issues; and

WHEREAS, the observance of Safe Schools Week will substantially promote efforts to provide Rhode Island's schools with positive and safe learning climates; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lincoln D. Chafee, Governor of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, do hereby proclaim October 21-27, 2012 as Safe Schools Week in the State of Rhode Island and encourage all state residents to recognize the importance of this week.

Lincoln D. Chafee

Governor

Given under my hand and the great seal of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, this /0th day of October, 2012

Secretary of State